Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

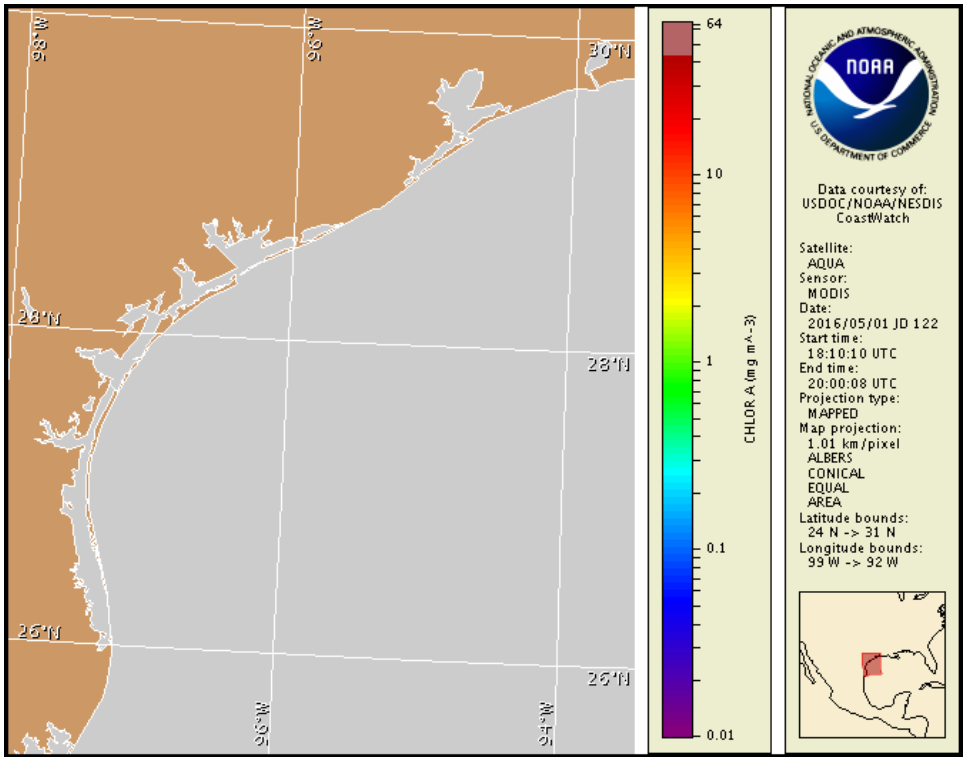
Monday, 02 May 2016

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, April 25, 2016



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from April 22 to 29: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). Cell count data are provided by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/hab_publication/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Detailed sample information can be obtained through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at:

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us./landwater/water/environconcerns/hab/redtide/status.phtml

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To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html

Conditions Report

Karenia brevis (commonly known as Texas red tide) ranges from not present to background concentrations along the coast of Texas. No respiratory irritation is expected Monday, May 2 through Monday, May 9.

Check http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html for recent, local observations.

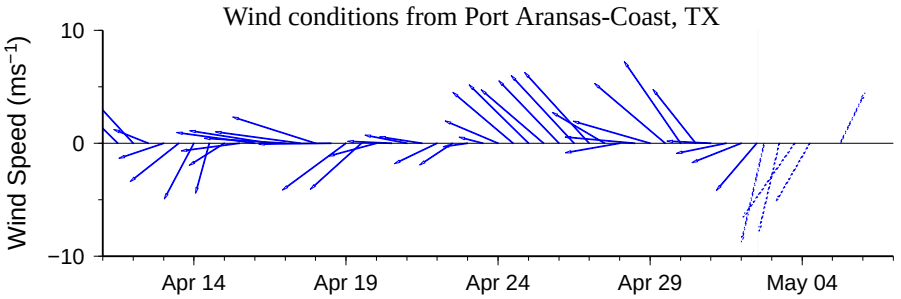
Analysis

Data from Texas A&M University's Imaging FlowCytobot, located on the Port Aransas ship channel, is currently unavailable. However, previous sampling indicates that *Karenia brevis* concentrations range from 'not present' to 'background' (TAMU; 4/20-27). For information on area shellfish restrictions, contact the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Recent MODIS Aqua imagery (5/1, shown left) is completely obscured by clouds along- and offshore the Texas coast, preventing analysis.

Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate a potential maximum transport of 60 km south from the Port Aransas region from May 1-5.

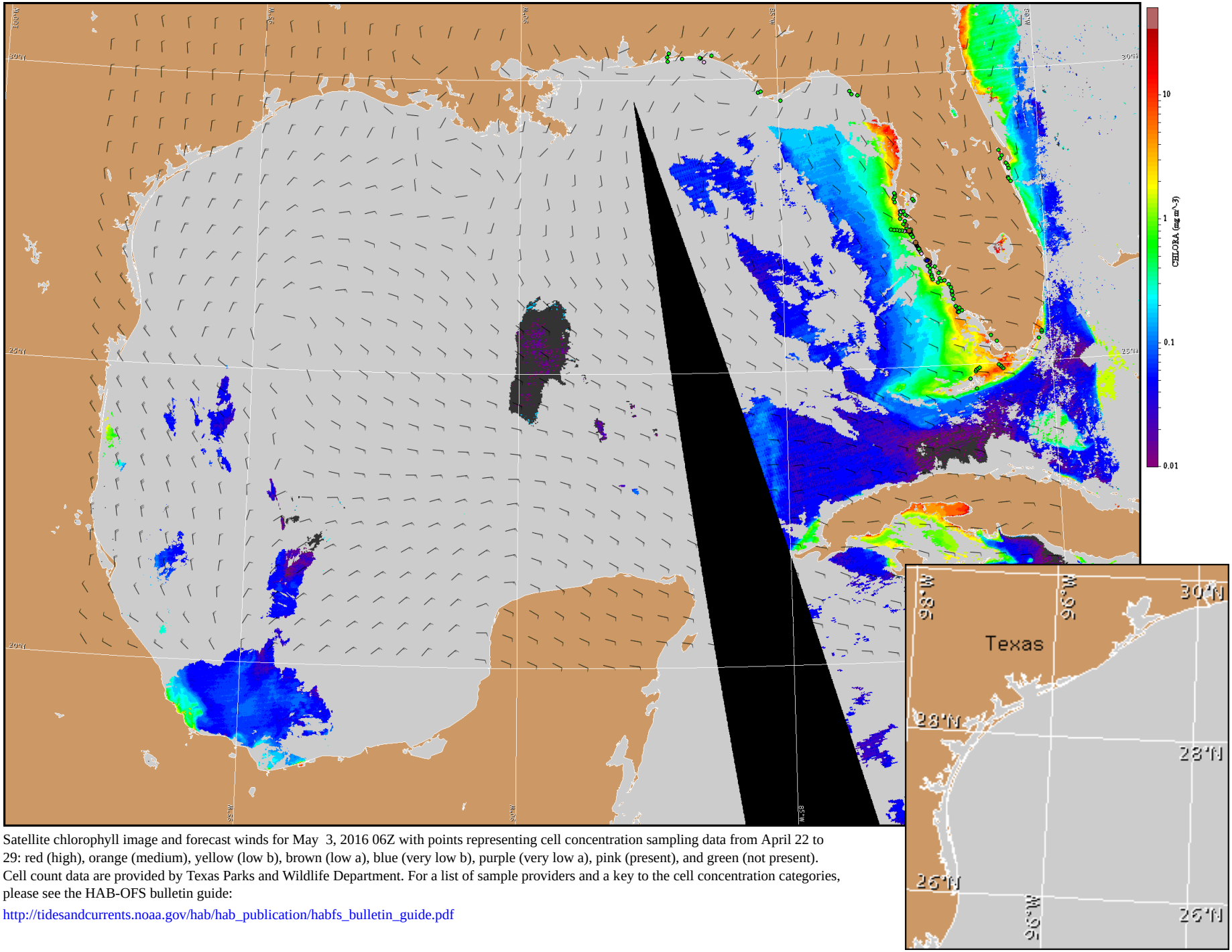
Keeney, Davis



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

Wind Analysis

Port Aransas to Matagorda Ship Channel: Northeast to north winds (10-20kn, 5-10m/s) today through Wednesday, shifting to southeast winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) Wednesday Evening. Southeast winds (5-10kn) Thursday. Southeast winds (5-15kn, 3-8m/s) Thursday and Friday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for May 3, 2016 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from April 22 to 29: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). Cell count data are provided by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).